

**REMARKS**

Claims 31-33, 35-39, 51-53 and 56-58 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 31-33, 51-53 and 56-58 are amended, and claims 30, 34, 40-50, 54, 55 and 59 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

**I. Objection to the Specification**

The Office Action objects to the specification because claims 34, 49, 54 and 59 recite the term "superposing", which the Office Action asserts is not supported by the specification. Claims 34, 49, 54 and 59 are now canceled, and thus withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

**II. Objection to the Drawing**

The Office Action objects to the drawings because claims 34, 49, 54 and 59 recite the term "superposing", which the Office Action asserts is not supported by the drawings. Claims 34, 49, 54 and 59 are now canceled, and thus withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

**III. Rejection Based on 35 U.S.C. §101**

The Office Action rejects claims 45-49 because these claims are directed to a computer program, which the Office Action asserts is non-statutory matter. Applicant has canceled claims 45-49 to obviate the rejection. Thus, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101 is respectfully requested.

**IV. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter**

The Office Action rejects claims 30, 45, 50 and 55 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Sawai (U.S. Patent No. 6,252,590) in view of Miyamoto (U.S. Patent No. 6,331,146); rejects claims 31-33, 35-37, 39, 46-48, 51-53 and 56-58 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Sawai in view of Miyamoto, and further in view of Okayama (U.S. Patent No. 5,045,939); rejects claim 38

over Sawai in view of Miyamoto and Okayama, and further in view of Schreiber (U.S. Patent No. 6,043,483); and rejects claims 34, 44, 49, 54 and 59 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kranawetter (U.S. Patent No. 5,309,234). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 30, 34, 40-50, 54, 55 and 59 are canceled, and thus the rejections with respect to these claims are now moot.

With respect to independent claims 31, 51 and 56, Sawai does not disclose or suggest extracting an area based on a moving direction or an eyes direction of a character in a game image data.

The Office at page 5, 6-8 admits that Sawai does not disclose or suggest controlling a character according to an operation input to an operation input section by a player. Therefore, Sawai also does not disclose or suggest the above-mentioned feature of the claims.

The Office Action however asserts that Miyamoto discloses character control features that allow a player to control a character's exploration of a three-dimensional world. See Office Action at page 5, lines 8-11.

Miyamoto specifically discloses at col. 2, lines 41-49 a "camera angle" that can be manipulated by a player controlling the character. The manipulation allows the player to zoom in and out, and to pan the camera angle left and right. However, absent in Miyamoto's disclosure is a teaching or suggestion that the game space has an area between one end of the normal screen and a character that is larger than an area between an other end of the normal screen and the character based on a moving direction or an eyes direction of the character. Thus, Miyamoto does not disclose or suggest the above-mentioned feature of the claims.

Okayama fails to compensate for the above-noted deficiencies of Sawai and Miyamoto. Specifically, Okayama discloses extracting a part of a wide screen television signal based on which part of the wide screen signal has the greatest amount of motion within the wide screen television signal. See col. 2, lines 18-29. On the contrary, the claims recite an area

based on a moving direction or an eyes direction of the character in the game image data is extracted. As an example, it is possible to extract an area such that the right side of the character is larger than the left side of the character in case the moving direction of the character is right. This feature is different that what is disclosed in Okayama, that is extracting an area based on the greatest amount of motion.

Both Kranawetter and Schreiber do not compensate for the above-noted deficiencies of Sawai, Miyamoto and Okayama. Kranawetter instead discloses at col. 2, lines 20-27 that when a displayed video signal does not occupy all the available area of a screen, the unoccupied portion may be used to display another picture or text information.

Schreiber discloses a technique of a rotary encoder, which is not pertinent to the game techniques recited in the claims. Thus, the field of invention of Schreiber is different than that of the claimed invention. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of Schreiber with the other references is improper.

Therefore, independent claims 31, 51 and 56 define patentable subject matter. Claims 32-33, 35-39, 52-53 and 57-58 depend from the respective independent claims, and therefore also define patentable subject matter as well as for the other features they recite.

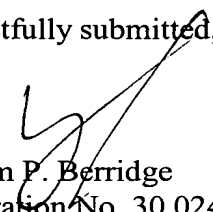
Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

**V. Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 31-33, 35-39, 51-53 and 56-58 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
William P. Berridge  
Registration No. 30,024

Yong S. Choi  
Registration No. 43,324

WPB:YSC/eks

Date: March 15, 2005

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

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